

**IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE**

International Application No. : PCT/EP03/008224  
International Filing Date : July 25, 2003  
Priority Date(s) Claimed : July 31, 2002  
Applicant(s) (DO/EO/US) : Roland RAUPACH et al.

Title: LASER-MARKABLE FLEXIBLE SUPPORT UNIT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This information disclosure statement is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 as follows:

**Timing and Fees**

- Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no fee or statement is required for filing this information disclosure statement is filed:
  - within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a CPA under § 1.53(d);
  - within three months of the actual filing date of the national phase of a PCT application; OR
  - before the mailing of a first substantive office action (including after filing of an RCE).
- Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this information disclosure statement is filed after the periods specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of:
  - a final rejection under 37 C.F.R. 1.113;
  - termination of prosecution, e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P. § 609(B)(2); OR
  - a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; and

is accompanied by:

- the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) set out below; OR
  - a check covering the fee of under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing date of the following actions which have not been withdrawn:
- a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
  - termination of prosecution, e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2); OR
  - a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311;

AND is filed on or before payment of the issue fee; AND is accompanied by:

- the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) as set forth below, and the fee of under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Statements Under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application having a mailing date not more than three months prior to the filing date of this information disclosure statement; or
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the information disclosure statement.

Cited Materials

- Copies of materials listed but not attached were cited in benefit (35 U.S.C. § 120) ancestor application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_, on Form 892 by the Examiner and/or Form 1449 by the applicant; see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- Copies of materials listed but not attached were cited in an international search report dated November 13, 2003.
- Copies of the materials listed are attached (except for the foregoing).

Non-English Language References

An English-language search report or equivalent paper from a foreign patent office is provided indicating the relevance of the cited reference(s).

A foreign-language search report from a foreign patent office is provided, and pertinent parts are translated substantively below:

X = document of particular relevance when it is taken alone

Y = document of particular relevance when it is combined with another such document

A = document defining the general state of the art

O = non-written disclosure

P = intercalated document

T = document cited to understand the theory or principle underlying the invention

E = patent document which has the benefit of a date earlier than the filing date and which was published only on or after this filing date

D = cited in the application

L = cited for another reason

& = publication of member of same patent family

Translation of other relevant information on foreign search report

In the search report, "Seite" means page, "das ganze Dokument" means the entire document, "Spalte" means column, "Zeile" means line, "Anspruch" means example, "in der Anmeldung erwähnt" means cited in the application, "Absatz" means break,

Other Information

Payment of Fees Due (If Any):

A check for \$ covering the fee identified above is attached.

Please charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3402 \$ for the fee identified above.

10/522797

DT15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 JAN 2005

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account #13-3402, two copies of this paper are attached for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969  
Attorney for Applicants

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO  
& BRANIGAN, P.C.  
Arlington Courthouse Plaza I  
2200 Clarendon Blvd. Suite 1400  
Arlington, Virginia 22201  
Telephone: (703) 243-6333  
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-2970

Date: January 31, 2005

AJZ:aap

K:\Merck\2970\Information Disclosure Statement.doc

Please type a plus sign (+) inside the box → +

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				Application Number	Unassigned <b>10/522797</b>
(use as many sheets as necessary)				Filing Date	January 31, 2005
Sheet	1	of	1	First Named Inventor	Roland RAUPACH et al.
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-2970

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	1	5843547		KUELPER	December 1, 1998
	2	5422383		J. TAKAHASHI	June 6, 1995
	3	6066437			May 23, 2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	4	DE	19630478		QUARZWERKE GMBH	January 29, 1998
	5	DE	19905415		HOECHST TRESPAPHAN GMBH	August 17, 2000
	6	EP	0941663		KALLE NALO GMBH & CO., KG	September 15, 1999
	7	DE	19642040		SCHREINER ETIKETTEN UND SELBSTKLESETECHNIK GMBH & CO.	JANUARY 15, 1998
	8	EP	0190997		CIBA-GEIGY AG	August 13, 1986
	9	WO	03018700		TESA AG	March 6, 2003

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

<sup>1</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. Number refers to English language corresponding family member.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.